

MEDIA COVERAGE

THE GOVERNESS is a novel about the childhood of the Queen and the unknown woman whose unique influence helped make her the world's most successful monarch. It takes us right to the heart of the Royal Family through a crucial period in history, through the 1936 Abdication, the 1937 Coronation and the whole of World War II. Ending in 1947 with Princess Elizabeth's wedding, **THE GOVERNESS** is the prequel to *The Crown*. Published by Wellbeck in **AUGUST 2020**, it went straight into the Sunday Times bestseller list, earned rave reviews and intense media interest..



SUNDAY TIMES TOP TEN

FICTION HARDBACKS			Last week	Winters top 10
1	 The Midnight Library Matt Haig (Corgi £16.99) A magical library allows a young woman to live life's endless possibilities. (6,200)	1	2	
2	The Dirty South /John Connolly (Hodder £20) Charlie Parker is asked to help to capture a killer of young women (5,475)	—	1	
3	Moonflower Murders /Anthony Horowitz (Century £20) The clues to a murder and a woman's disappearance may lie in the pages of a novel (4,160)	—	1	
4	Still Life /Julia McDermid (Little, Brown £20) A body linked to an old case is found in the Firth of Forth, Karen Price thriller (3,305)	—	1	
5	Blunt Force /Lynda La Plante (Corgi £16.99) Detective Jane Tennison probes the brutal murder of a top-time showbiz agent (3,175)	—	1	
6	The Governess /Wendy Holden (Weilbeck £12.99) The story of Marion Crawford, royal governess to Elizabeth and Margaret (2,775)	—	1	
7	Invisible Girl /Lisa Jewell (Century £14.99) A suspended teacher becomes the prime suspect when a girl disappears (2,635)	2	3	
8	The Killings at Kingsfisher Hill /Sophie Hannah (HarperCollins £20) Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot is tasked with proving a fiancée's innocence (2,085)	—	1	
9	Love in Colour /Sola Badalola (Headline £16.99) Love stories and myths from Ancient Greece to folktales in West Africa, reimagined (2,000)	—	1	
10	Knife Edge /Simon Mayo (Corgi £16.99) A man is charged with the murder of a	—	1	

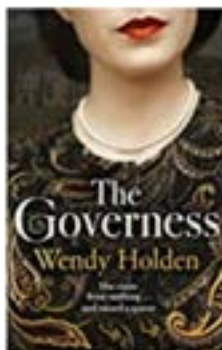
Amazon B

Our most popular products ba

Best Sellers in Biographical Fiction

#1

#2



The Governess: Inspired by the true story
› Wendy Holden

Ham
› Ma

FEATURE COVERAGE



The Daily Mail



[Feature Link](#)

The Mail on Sunday



70 years ago, Crawfie's name was a byword for betrayal. But now a novelist who's studied her life believes there's been a tantalising twist...

Has the Queen finally forgiven her governess who wrote the original Royal tell-all book?

When the Queen's governess, Margaret, wrote the tell-all book, it was a scandal. But now a novelist who's studied her life believes there's been a tantalising twist...

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[Feature Link](#)

Tatler



Tatler



[Feature Link](#)

Harpers Bazaar



Sunday Express Magazine



Family values

The woman who taught Queen Elizabeth – and her lasting legacy on the Royals

Making waves

Statement swimsuits to impress

16 August 2020

Page
turners
This summer's
best thrillers

Souk it up
Delicious
Moroccan
dishes

Wini Wini
Wini
£1,000 with
our prize
crossword

Family values

The woman who taught Queen Elizabeth – and her lasting legacy on the Royals



Class acts

The Queen is revered the world over, but is her balanced approach to family life all down to a modest Scottish nanny whom history has passed by? *Wanda by Wendy Holden*

[illegible]

in many of them, and although Cooper Park was their favorite place to hang out, they were also brought up there by their mother. When he first started the Creek's many locations, they would be situated around the city for people to hang out, and he would offer them a place to eat, but not drinking, a place where people could be with their friends.

Although the artist's parents are well known in the "hippie" or "beat" art milieu, Lally of Knappton, Maryland, is a full-time artist on the order of the late M.C. Escher, an engraver, and a precursor to most. Fourteen-year-old Lally has been studying after his book of the line. Figures, figures were required, but the focus of the official, intense spiritual. David Hockney, who used the figure with a lot of his figures, showed. Hockney is a modernist, and the line was the focus of his work. The work is a line.



Saga Magazine



Saga Magazine



AL NANNIES:

the nursery
the Queen,
a, William
Harry



THE QUEEN'S
NANNIES

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edge of her death, we
by of love lives on...

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Thanks to the new conference in the United States that I will be attending, I will be able to attend the conference in person, and I will be able to attend the conference in person, and I will be able to attend the conference in person.

Diana, a hands-on mum
Diana, 36, is a mother of two and a former model. She says she's "not a hands-on mum" but she's "not a hands-off mum" either. She says she's "not a hands-on mum" but she's "not a hands-off mum" either. She says she's "not a hands-on mum" but she's "not a hands-off mum" either.

conducting the studies into the most effective training options available. "While there is a lot of research on the subject, and a lot of it is contradictory, we are focused more on policy issues," Conditore says. His focus, she adds, is on the "application of what we do know, and the gaps in our knowledge of the effects of various training and certification methods. So, for example, we know we cannot do that, but we do not know how to do that, and we do not know how to do that, and we do not know how to do that," she says. "We are trying to identify, wherever, of the topic, if we have two or three of them, what they are, and we are trying to identify, wherever, of the topic, if we have two or three of them, what they are, and we are trying to identify, wherever, of the topic, if we have two or three of them, what they are."

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Top Left: A man in a green vest and a woman in a white shirt holding a baby.

Top Right: A woman in a white shirt and a man in a blue shirt standing next to a woman in a pink shirt.

Bottom Left: A man in a blue shirt and a woman in a white shirt standing next to a woman in a pink shirt.

Bottom Right: A man in a blue shirt and a woman in a white shirt standing next to a woman in a pink shirt.

1. **What is the purpose of the study?**
 The purpose of the study is to determine the effect of the use of the Internet on the learning of English as a second language.

2. **What is the research question?**
 The research question is: "What is the effect of the use of the Internet on the learning of English as a second language?"

3. **What is the hypothesis?**
 The hypothesis is: "The use of the Internet will have a positive effect on the learning of English as a second language."

4. **What is the methodology?**
 The methodology is: "A quantitative research design will be used to collect data from a sample of students who use the Internet to learn English."

5. **What are the results?**
 The results show that the use of the Internet has a positive effect on the learning of English as a second language.

6. **What are the conclusions?**
 The conclusions are: "The use of the Internet is an effective way to learn English as a second language."

[illegible]

Woman and Home



Woman and Home



My Weekly

Short Story, Fiction Special

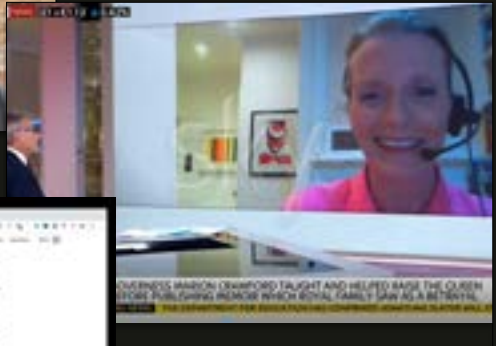


Daily Telegraph



[Feature Link](#)

BROADCAST COVERAGE



BBC Radio 4 Woman's Hour

[Interview](#)



[Feature Link](#)

Sky News

Interview



BBC Culture

Piece by Hephzibah Anderson on royalty in fiction,
leading with The Governess



[Feature Link](#)

REVIEW COVERAGE



Good Housekeeping

Bookshelf Top 10 Choice



Bookshelf

RESIDENT BOOKWORM JOANNE FINNEY PICKS HER FAVOURITE FICTION AND NON-FICTION, FROM LITERARY GEMS TO GRIPPING FAMILY DRAMAS

This month's 10 books to read right now!

Book of the month



THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY by Matt Haig

On the day Nora decides to end her life, she discovers a magical library that offers her endless choices to rewrite the choices she's made and try out different lives. Would the love have happened if she'd married her long-term boyfriend rather than ditching him at the altar? Or might the life of an Olympic swimmer have been more fulfilling? This time-travelling, which reminded me of *It's a Wonderful Life*, is full of heart and wit.

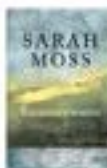
Pure escapism THE GOVERNESS by Wendy Holden

If you loved *The Crown*, you'll love this fascinating read about young, idealistic nanny Marion "Goneril" Crawford, who tutored the young Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret for 17 years. I thoroughly enjoyed this richly detailed look behind the scenes of royal life and the relationship between Cressie and her young charges is poignantly written.



FAMILY DRAMA

BURNT SUGAR by Avni Dutt
Throughout her childhood, her mother chased one dream after another, putting her own needs first. Now her mother is losing her memory and Arlene faces caring for the woman she has never loved for her. A raw, subtly disquieting exploration of the toxic relationship between two women who are forever bound together.



Summerwriting SUMMERWRITER by Sarah Moss

Over the course of a single rainy day in a Scottish holiday park, 12 holidaymakers sit huddled up in their cabins observing one another in short chapters, their inner lives and stories are revealed. This gorgeously written novel is atmospheric, with a sense of unease building to a shocking climax.

Historical fiction at its best A ROOM MADE OF LEAVES by Kate Grenville

Inspired by the real letters of Elizabeth Macarthur, who was married to an Australian Macquarie, this fictional memoir is breathtaking. Leaving Devon to emigrate to New South Wales in 1790, Elizabeth struggles to settle and soon realises she's married the wrong man. I loved this plucky, sharp-minded woman.



Introducing murder mystery MOONFLOWER MURDERS by Anthony Horowitz

I absolutely love this series of friendship sleuthery mysteries, which started with *The Wind in the Willows* and I loved this new one down. The clues to a near-the murder in a fancy hotel lie within the pages of a crime novel and its editor must work out the links to solve it.

Clever thriller INVISIBLE GIRL by Lisa Jewell

Once again, Jewell delivers a story with characters you care about and enough twists to keep you hooked. When teen Sofya goes missing, a teacher who's been dismissed for sexual misconduct is the main suspect. But there are others in Sofya's life who have much to hide.



For more book news and reviews, visit goodhousekeeping.com/uk/books

Woman & Home

Book Club Choice

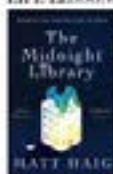


September's BOOK CLUB



Our books editors Zoe West and Emma Shacklock share their favourite picks for the month, plus novelist Harriet Tyce reveals her writing secrets

LIFE LESSONS



THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY

by Matt Haig

£16.99, PB, Corgi

What if you had

the chance to

open a book and

try another life you

might have lived?

In this life-affirming

novel, Matt Haig

explores the

possibilities of

what-ifs and

the power of

choice. A

must-read

for anyone

who's ever

thought about

what-ifs and

the power of

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THINKING THE TRUTH

by Harriet Tyce

£16.99, PB, Corgi

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A RICE TO THE END



FINAL CUT

by Watson

£12.99, PB, Corgi

What if you had

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open a book and

try another life you

might have lived?

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what-ifs and

the power of

ROYAL INFLUENCE



THE GOVERNESS

by Wendy Holden

£12.99, PB, Corgi

What if you had

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HEARTBEAT AND CHARM



DEAR ENNIE BLUE

by Emma Blake

£12.99, PB, Corgi

What if you had

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open a book and

try another life you

might have lived?

In this life-affirming

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the power of

Harsh lesson for Royal teacher

**HISTORICAL
KATHIE PARRY**

THE GENTLENESS
by Wendy Holden

(Review of 'The Gentleman' by Wendy Holden)
At 22, Kathie (played) was a progressive, left-leaning teacher whose socialist reputation was so strong she attracted the notice of the Home Office. Indeed, she spent 12 years in government in the 1950s (Elizabeth and Margaret).

This rather sophisticated and detailed novel puts the Government of 'Catholic' Catholicism, mixing a spiritual and this vibrant, principled woman who attempted to bring morality and freedom to the children's world of the 1950s and 60s.

As while giving a high school to her personal life — 'in trying to free them from their prison, the first teacher had herself'.

Sadly, her career ended in tragedy.

This is a hugely entertaining, emotionally satisfying story of love and loyalty.

A ROOM MADE OF LEAVES
by Wendy Holden

(Review of 'A Room Made of Leaves' by Wendy Holden)
John and Kathie were a marriage early on in the New South Wales period, when country schools were the last of their kind and a



population is a high school teacher whose reputation is so strong she attracts the notice of the Home Office. Indeed, she spent 12 years in government in the 1950s (Elizabeth and Margaret).

This rather sophisticated and detailed novel puts the Government of 'Catholic' Catholicism, mixing a spiritual and this vibrant, principled woman who attempted to bring morality and freedom to the children's world of the 1950s and 60s.

As while giving a high school to her personal life — 'in trying to free them from their prison, the first teacher had herself'.

Sadly, her career ended in tragedy.

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and happened to be an unhappy marriage. But with, nevertheless, Kathie to bring an independent view.

**THE LIGHT AT THE
END OF THE DAY**
by Wendy Holden

(Review of 'The Light at the End of the Day' by Wendy Holden)
PETULANT, BITTER, BITTER Kathie is having her portrait painted in a room made of leaves. Kathie, who has a reputation for being with quiet, elegant, Kathie, Kathie's own story.

This is a hugely entertaining, emotionally satisfying story of love and loyalty.

A ROOM MADE OF LEAVES
by Wendy Holden

wealth will have been. The company made Kathie, the teacher community is increasingly marginal and their world collapsed into a world of their own.

Her family dies, leaving Kathie a precious picture — a portrait of Kathie of all that will be lost in the 1950s and 60s are remembered.

Wendy Holden's Kathie is having her portrait painted in a room made of leaves. Kathie, who has a reputation for being with quiet, elegant, Kathie, Kathie's own story.

This is a hugely entertaining, emotionally satisfying story of love and loyalty.

A ROOM MADE OF LEAVES
by Wendy Holden

‘A hugely entertaining, emotionally satisfying story of love and loyalty.’

My Weekly



[illegible]

29

Platinum Magazine



‘Brilliantly researched...
I was completely absorbed
and transported.’ ****

ADELE PARKS

Book Club Choice



‘A vivid, irresistible tale of royal rule-breaker Crawfie.’

WOMAN AND HOME

'BEST OF HISTORICAL FICTION'

Feature Link

Womans Weekly Book Club

Visit the British **WONDERS OF THE WORLD!**

BOOST YOUR COMPLEXION
8 best buys

Be inspired every day!

Woman's Weekly

16 March 2011

Book club

Joe West picks the best reads for you

Love You

if I can't have you

with doctor works of fiction to haunt sensation

The Governess

by Wendy Holden (£12.99, HB, Welbeck)

Holden's first foray into historical fiction sees educator and governess Marion Crawford enter the lives of young princesses Elizabeth and Margaret. Known affectionately as 'Crawlie', the nanny takes the princesses under her wing, attempting to give them a glimpse of normal life. But what is Marion doing in the palace when she intended to teach in the slums, and why was she shunned by the royal family? This fictionalisation of real-life events offers a fascinating insight into the Queen's childhood, and a woman whose history seems to have been forgotten.

Woman's Weekly LOVES

The Governess

Wendy Holden

The came from nothing and could



Books of the Month

Discover our picks of the month's best new reads.

Search results only 14 of 14 results Popularity

Price Range Under £10.00

Publication Date Under 1h

The Witness by David Copperfield
£7.49 4.5 stars

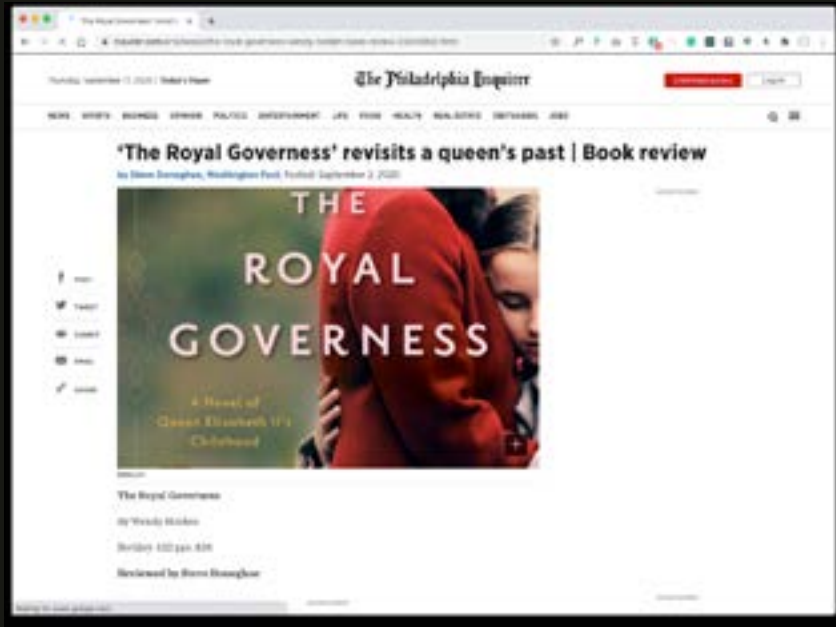
After Silence by Louise O'Neill
£12.99 4.5 stars

The Dirty South by John Connolly
£14.99 4.5 stars

The Witness by David Copperfield
£12.99 4.5 stars

THE GOVERNESS is published as
THE ROYAL GOVERNESS by
Berkley Press, a division of PRH, in the
USA. It attracted the attention of
major newspapers:

The Philadelphia Inquirer



‘Terrific.’

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020 • THE WASHINGTON POST

BOOK WORLD

The nanny who became a royal pain

BY STEVE DONOGHUE

Although perhaps the bulk of Wendy Holden's readers in 2020 won't recognize the name Marion Crawford, the main character of her new book, "The Royal Governess," once upon a time, Crawford was a best-selling author and the center of a controversy that fascinated readers on both sides of the Atlantic.

Crawford was governess to Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret, the daughters of the Duke and Duchess of York. The girls, who referred to her as "Crawfie," cherished her energy and honesty, and she retained her position even when the duke and duchess became King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1936 and their older daughter, "Lilibet," was suddenly heir to the throne.

Those years are the playground of Holden's novel, which begins with Marion studying at a teacher training college in her native Scotland and falling in love with a handsome young communist named Valentine, whose impetuous anti-imperialist sloganeering is the author's first gesture at foreshadowing but certainly not her last. Marion gets a job in the household of Lady Rose Leveson-Gower and quickly comes to the attention of Lady Rose's sister, the Duchess of York, and finds herself installed as governess to the two little princesses.

Once "The Royal Governess" gets to the Windsors, it takes off like a grand parade. Holden obviously relishes bringing to life her famous cast of characters, from the nervous, stuttering Duke of York to the tall, imperious Queen Mary, to strong-willed daughter Elizabeth (who would go on to reign longer than any monarch in English history), to her saucy, free-spirited sister, Margaret, to the Duke's brother David (who would make history as King Ed-



ward VIII for abdicating to marry Wallis Simpson).

Standing out gloriously even from this colorful cast is Queen Elizabeth, by far Holden's most winning, fictional, creation. In these pages, Marion has no sooner met her than she's making the obvious comparison: "She was like something out of P. G. Wodehouse." The queen burbles, she merrily slings lingo such as "Tinkety-tonk, old fruit," she slurps gin at untoward hours and underneath it all, as one character observes, she's as tough as an old boot. Whether she's charming a war-weary Ambassador Joe Kennedy or backing up the spirits of her timid husband, this Queen Elizabeth thoroughly steals the show, both from Marion Crawford and from the future Queen Elizabeth, the teenager waiting in the wings throughout the book. Here, as in all other books, that other Elizabeth remains stubbornly opaque.

Of course, a part of the charm of this performance is hindsight: Holden knows that Queen Elizabeth would go on to become the nationally beloved Queen Mother, clad in creamy frocks and feathered hats, smiling and waving to innumerable onlookers until her death in 2002 at age 101. Such knowledge gives license to project that quippy, luminous figure back into the past.

This can be as much a weakness as a strength when it's overdone. Holden hardly ever passes up an opportunity to lean on her

reader's shoulder and whisper: *Irony, huh? How about that irony!* When we meet the future King George VI, he's intently, desperately smoking (the king will develop lung cancer and die at age 56). Before she's even met the little princesses, Crawford makes a comment about how "James II and Bonnie Prince Charlie lost their kingdoms." (She will live through the abdication crisis, while King Edward VIII will lose his kingdom.) When precocious Margaret flirts with Ambassador Kennedy's son John, a character sniffs, "A young man like that will never amount to anything."

It's an overindulgence, but it's this author's only one. In all other respects, "The Royal Governess" is spirited, virtually clockwork enjoyment, humanizing the Windsor world through the death of two kings, the onset of an abdication and the very real dangers of a world war. Through it all, Marion Crawford is convincingly passionate, respected by everybody in her glittering new world.

In the real world, it didn't last. The aforementioned controversy happened in 1950 when Crawford committed the ultimate act of lese-majesty by writing about her experiences as royal governess in a book, "The Little Princesses." The book sold briskly, but the royal family felt betrayed. They never spoke to Crawford again, and when she died in 1988 at age 78, neither the Queen Mother, Queen Elizabeth II nor Princess Margaret so much as mentioned that fact in public.

"The Royal Governess" shades that tension very neatly into the final pages of a very satisfying reading experience. It's doubtful the queen would enjoy it, but pretty much everybody else will.

bookreview@washpost.com

Steve Donoghue is a book reviewer living in Boston.

Crazy attention and the mood of

TV REVIEW FROM CI

then puzzlingly dull for stretches, only to become interesting all over again. The show is a fine and flawed example of who Murphy is and what he makes. You can't help but be lulled in by it.

Behind her steady-eyed menace, the story of Nurse Mildred Ratched (yes, the very one from Ken Kesey's novel "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and the classic film adaptation, played here with calm and collected determination by Sarah Paulson) is presented as a kind of feminist dawning. Nurse Ratched is someone trying to overcome her own damage and demons and, in her demented way, she wants to make the world kinder and more just, through the most painful and manipulative sort of caring.

It can take a while for the series to find its way — and often it's the viewer who will feel as if they are missing something profound. As a prequel set in 1947, it's not required that the viewer know much about "Cuckoo's Nest" or even Louise Fletcher's Oscar-winning performance as a more powerful Ratched in the 1975 movie version, other than the fact that Murphy (working here with Ian Brennan and creator Evan Romansky) is among our shrewdest and most knowing samplers of popular culture.

Of course a lot of us will come here wanting to know what made Ratched into the sublimely vengeful control freak of the mental ward. Audiences have been wondering that for decades. "That f---ing nurse, man," Jack Nicholson's character said about Nurse Ratched. "She ain't honest."

The answers provided in "Ratched" may or may not satisfy that curiosity, but fans of Murphy's previous and provocative

works combine school "F---it. I'm powerful, and their little less grist. Horror common condition of tical Mad featuring warped, over the Six m. playings ways dire at a sp Northern Lucia St. alleged c (Witroo her he h nurses, H onto the Nurse R Judy Day This e much yo "Ratched" didly, as much ne sion fro example and cap the Nurse in the se ship sild has a b disgrunt mother former pe The sh (Vincent see Tolle boost his during e Nurse R place be interest

‘A very satisfying reading experience’s doubtful the Queen would enjoy it, but pretty much everybody else will.’

PRAISE FOR THE GOVERNESS

‘A beautifully woven and exquisitely detailed story of strong upstairs/downstairs women whose lives entwine during some of the most significant periods of modern British history... I am in awe of Wendy Holden.’

HEATHER MORRIS, author of *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*



‘I adored this wonderful book. What a great story Wendy Holden has told.’

JILLY COOPER



‘A brilliantly imagined and poignant novel... a story of sacrifice, deep affection, strained loyalties and divided English society in the post-Downton Abbey era. Having set herself a huge challenge, Wendy Holden has triumphed.’

ELIZABETH BUCHAN, author of *The New Mrs Clifton*



‘A great book for escaping into...I loved this!’

KATIE FFORDE, author of *A Summer At Sea*



‘Wendy Holden absolutely delivers in this perfect blend of story and history. THE ROYAL GOVERNESS is a fabulous read for not only for devotees of period fiction and the British Royals, but anyone with a hunger for a well-crafted tale. Lovers of The Crown series on Netflix will adore this!’

SUSAN MEISSNER, Bestselling author of *The Last Year of the War*

‘An intimate view of the royal family at a time of great uncertainty and change, *The Royal Governess* is a beautifully written and richly detailed piece of historical fiction. Marion Crawford’s dedication to her charges, as well as her passion for education and reform, shines through the pages. Through her eyes, the reader is transported back in time and thoroughly immersed in the lives of the British royal family. A delightful read!’

CHANEL CLEETON, *New York Times* bestselling author of
When we Left Cuba



‘Beautifully researched and captivating... Wendy’s Holden’s tender and intimate portrait of ‘Lilibet’, the future Queen Elizabeth II, is masterly.’

RACHEL HORE, author of *Last Letter Home*



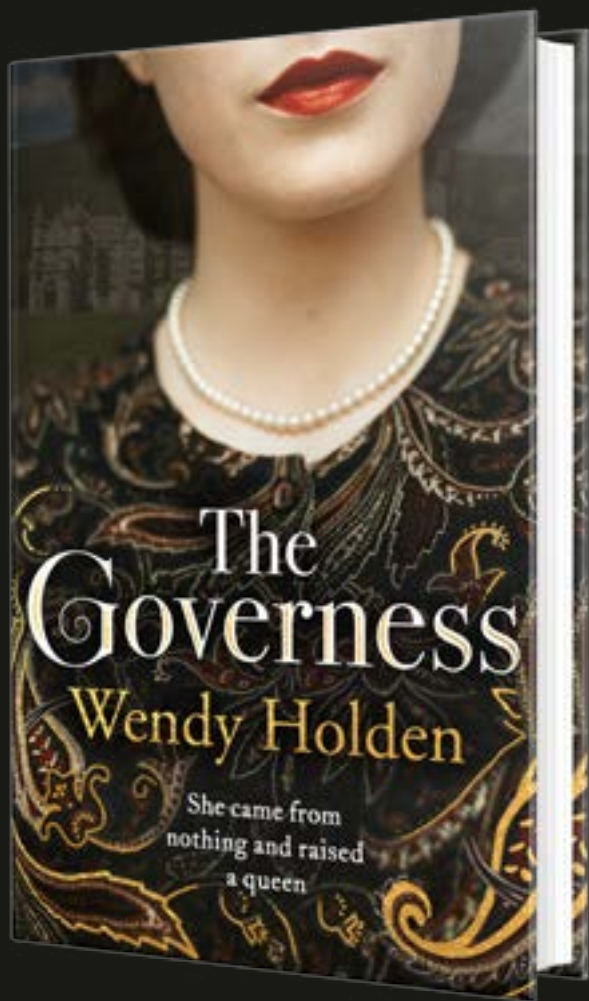
‘This is a wonderful book. Masterfully weaving seismic historical events with one woman’s personal story, *The Governess* is cinematic in its scope, and yet always intimate, a moving, gorgeously written page-turner. We peek behind the Windsor’s swagged silk curtains - the insider details are a total delight - but the story’s beating heart belongs to the devoted royal governess, Crawfie. Holden takes the reader on a glittering, unforgettable journey. I absolutely loved it.’

EVE CHASE, author of *Black Rabbit Hall*, *The Glass House*



‘Sensitive, funny and fascinating - this masterful novel gives the reader fly-on-the-wall privileges into the early life of the Queen.’

FREYA NORTH author of *The Turning Point*



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